

Q. 1273

Doc. No. 16327(116)

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Kido Diary

September 1st, Tuesday, Fine. (1942)

At 10 a.m. went to the office.

From 10:20 to 11:15 audience with the Emperor.

At 1 p.m. Lord Steward HIROHATA came to my room and told me informally that Princess Teru's wedding was to be celebrated next autumn.

From 1:10 to 1:25 audience with the Emperor.

At 2:10 Premier TOJO came to my room, and related the circumstances surrounding the establishment of the Greater East Asia Ministry /DAI TOA SHO/.

He said that the matter had been debated at that morning's cabinet conference, that as Foreign Minister TOGO had objected in principle to the establishment, there had been no agreement in views. After a short recess, in the afternoon the Premier had talked the matter over with the Foreign Minister, but could not persuade him. Then the Premier had asked him to resign, but his answer being that he could not do so at once, the negotiations had come to a standstill. The Premier had then requested the Foreign Minister to let him know by 4 p.m. whether he would resign or not. If the Foreign Minister does not resign, the Cabinet will be forced to resign en bloc due to non-unity, the Premier concluded.

I was greatly surprised by the news as it came so suddenly, but since the Cabinet could do nothing I let the matter ride.

From 2:30 to 3 audience with the Emperor reporting the above matters. He too was greatly surprised. He wanted by all means to avoid a resignation en bloc in view of the situation at home and abroad, and at the present stage of war, today when America has begun to show considerable signs of counter-offensive action. I was really impressed. Therefore, I asked the Emperor to call in Navy Minister SHIMADA as an intermediary. With the Emperor's permission, I had the Chief Aide-de-Camp request the Navy Minister to appear at the Palace immediately.

At the same time I called Chief Secretary MATSUDAIRA, who had already retired to his home, to come and had him consider the steps to be taken in case the Navy Minister's intermediation should fail.

At 3:10 Navy Minister SHIMADA came to the Palace, and I saw him immediately. Having given him the reason why he was so suddenly called, I asked him to do his very utmost. From 3:20 to 3:25 audience with the Emperor. Reported the conversation which I had just had with the Navy Minister. Then the Navy Minister was received in audience after which he later came to my room and told me that he was deeply impressed by the gracious mind of the Emperor and that he would do his best.

From 3:45 to 4 audience with the Emperor, who told me what he had said to the Navy Minister.

At 5:00 received an interim report by phone from the Navy Minister by Aide-de-Camp SAMEJIMA that a solution seemed possible.

Then at 5:35 I received a phone call from the Navy Minister that Foreign Minister TOGO having understood the Premier's position had decided to present his resignation at about six o'clock.

From 5:40 to 5:45 audience with the Emperor. Reported these events and informed the Emperor that we had avoided the danger of a mass resignation. He appeared then to be relieved and I was pleased.

Then I returned home. After supper, I went again to the Palace at 7:00. Premier TOJO also came and reported to the Emperor that TOGO had resigned and that he /T.N. TOJO/ would be responsible for TOGO's post in addition to his own.

The Emperor sanctioned all this and installed him at 8:00 P.M. as the Foreign Minister.



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木戸侯日記 校正

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九月一日 火曜 晴

午前十時 出勤

十時二十分ヨリ十一時十五分迄拜謁

午後時應憐不夫末室 照宮様 慶事、末年秋ホニ擧行、旨ハ、話アリタリ。

一時十分ヨリ同三十五分迄拜謁

二時十分 東條首相末室 大東軍省設置ニ関スル経緯ニキ話アリ今朝末閣議ニ於テ 論議シタルニ東郷外相ハ根本論トシテ及対ヲ唱ヘ遂ニ一致ヲ見ルニ至リズ 一旦休憩シ午後外相ト懇談シタルニ遂ニ確言セシムコトヲ得ズ 然ラバ辞職セシ度シト述ベタルニ今直ニ辞職スルコト能ハスト是事ニテ交渉、全ク行ツミレリ依ツテ午後四時迄ニ至ヤ、是事ヲ求メ置キタルハ万一外相ニシテ辞職セサル時、閣内不統一トナル故總辞職、外ニシト、話ナリ 餘リ唐突、事ニテ大イニ驚ク不カモ内閣トシテハ今更施ス、術ハナカルベキヲ以テ兎ニ角聴キ置クニシム

二時半ヨリ三時迄拜謁右、経緯ヲ言ヒス 陛下モ頗ル驚カシ庭内外、情勢戦争、現段階殊ニ米、及攻氣勢、相當現ハル末レル今日内閣、總辞職ハ絶対ニ避ケ度シト、思召ニテ誠ニ恐懼、次第ナリ 依ツテ今際島田海軍大臣ヲ招キ載キ海相ヲシテ幹施セシムル様ニ願致度旨言ヒ嘉納ヲ得タルヲ持テ武官長ヲシテ直ニ海相、参内ヲ求メシム

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一面帰宅中、松平官長、出勤ヲ求メ、萬一海相、幹施不成功  
場合、前後処置ニツキ研究セシム。  
三時十分島田海相参内直面会急ニ呼召、趣旨ヲ傳ヘ極力盡力ヲ  
求ム。  
三時十分ヨリ同三十五分迄拜謁海相ト、連絡情況ヲ言ヒ、次イデ  
海相拜謁ス。拜謁後末室陛下、優渥ナル思召ニ感激充分盡  
カスベキ旨、語アリタリ。  
三時四十五分ヨリ四時迄拜謁。陛下ヨリ海相へ、所言葉等ヲ拜聴ス。  
五時海相ヨリ鮫島武官ヲ通ジテ電話ニテ大体解決ヲ着ケ得ル  
トラント、中間報告アリタリ。次イデ五時三十五分海相ヨリ電話ヲ  
東郷外相ハ首相、都合ヲ聴キ六時頃辞表ヲ提出ニ決意セリト、  
通長アリタリ。  
五時四十分ヨリ同四十五分迄拜謁右、趣旨ヲ言ヒ、總辭職、危  
機ヲ脱シタル旨奏上ス漸ク安心、所様子ヲ拜ヒ安堵ス。  
一旦帰宅タ食後七時再仕東條首相モ参内東郷、辭職  
其後仕トシテ首相、兼任ヲ奏上所嘉納アラセラルシ午後八時  
親任式ヲ所舉行ニ遊タリ。

No 2



Ex # 1274

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May 13th, 1943.

"Entry from Marquis KIDO's Diary, 13 May 43"

At 3 p. m. Foreign Minister SHIGEMITSU visited the Palace and after the audience he visited my room and we exchanged views concerning the prospect of the world situation, etc. He told me his opinion about his meeting with Ambassador STAHRER, which was as follows:

Ambassador STAHRER is seriously afraid of the present situation in Germany; the power of the Army has been gradually gathering strength and the Nazi Party apparently is overwhelmed by them. If this tendency becomes stronger, some violence will occur in politics as well as in diplomacy, and at last Germany will be confronted with a similar situation as in the last stage of the first Great War. In this occasion, by all means, some powerful person should be sent <sup>from Japan</sup> to Germany for the establishment of liaison between the two countries.

木 戸 候 爵 日 記

昭和十八年五月十三日分

五月十三日（木）晴

午前十時出勤

十時半武官長來室警戒警報發令ノ事情、アツウ島ニ  
米軍來襲ノ戦況ヲ聽ク一時十分ヨリ同四十分迄拜謁  
三時重光外相參内拜謁後來室世界情勢ノ見透其他ニ  
ツキ懇談ス外相スターマー大使トノ會談ニツキ左ノ  
如キ要旨ノ話アリタリ

同大使ハ獨ノ現状ヲ深憂シ居レリソノ主タル理由ハ  
獨乙國內ニテ漸次軍部ガ強方ニ進出シ警部ヲ左右セ  
ントスルノ實態アリ差シ此傾向ガ強クナレバ政治兵  
交等ニ無理ガ出來遂ニ前大戦ノ最後ノ如キ状態トナ  
ル虞アリ此ノ際是非日本ヨリ有力ナル人ヲ連絡ニ出  
サレタシ云々

五時爵宅西夫人來訪談栗田侯御像殿ノ件ナリ

六時軍令部總長官舎ニ於ケル同總長ノ晩餐會ニ出席  
ス松平官相以下宮内省ニ係者ナリ

由喜子一時退院ス

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